

EOD Warrior Foundation, Ken visited many fellow EOD veterans at Veterans Administration facilities and was dismayed at how many of them were continuing to struggle with the PTS that their medications had not cured.

As a result, Ken and Julia began a program called Warrior PATHH, or “progressive and alternative training for healing heroes.” The 18-month program that starts with a weeklong boot camp at the Boulder Crest Retreat, where days begin at 7 am with physical conditioning and end at 8:30 pm with discussion around a campfire led by other combat veterans, has allowed the 120 vets accepted for PATHH to explore their past, make greater sense of their struggles, and develop a realization that their preparedness and leadership skills can be carried from the battlefield to the home front. As an indication of the program’s success, over the past three years, 95 percent of combat vets who have participated in the program continue to participate in monthly video chats that help the Falkes keep track of their emotional health and keep them setting and accomplishing goals.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a privilege to ask you and our colleagues to join me in thanking two great patriots, Ken and Julia Falke, for the extraordinary difference they are making in the lives of our nation’s combat veterans, ensuring that they have the opportunity to succeed in their new mission—a life of passion, purpose and service, here at home.

RECOGNIZING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOSEPH PALAZZOLO

HON. PAUL MITCHELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vietnam veteran, Private First Class Joseph Palazzolo of Imlay City, Michigan. I recently had the honor of presenting Mr. Palazzolo with his long overdue Bronze Star with Valor Device for his heroic actions 52 years ago. On November 16, 1966, while serving near Pleiku in Vietnam, Joe’s unit came under heavy enemy fire. Joe dropped his pack and set a line of fire to protect others when he was shot in the shoulder. Even after being wounded himself, Joe refused to be evacuated, and instead stayed inside the line of fire to help others. By the end of the fire-fight, Joe carried a half-dozen wounded soldiers to safety. His selflessness and bravery were evident in his actions that day. Mr. Palazzolo’s devotion to his fellow soldiers and his duty reflects distinction upon him, the 25th Infantry Division and the United States Army. It was an honor to meet Private First Class Palazzolo to present him with a Bronze Star, and I wish him the best of luck in the future.

RECOGNIZING RED ARNDT FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE AND COMMITMENT

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Red Arndt for his many years of

service to the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System, as well as his lifetime commitment to bringing safe and reliable water to the rural corners of this country.

Born Lennis Arndt on May 1, 1948, he earned the nickname, Red, while in grade school from his full head of red hair. The name stuck and most people only know him today as Red Arndt.

Red grew up in Springfield, Minnesota, about 90 minutes from his current hometown, Luverne where he first started working in 1989 as their public utilities director. Shortly after beginning his new position, Red heard about a proposal to bring water from the Missouri River in South Dakota to the surrounding states. A major undertaking with more people doubting the idea than supporting, Red saw the opportunity and potential, recommending to the mayor and city council that Luverne join and become one of the first members of the corporation that would later become the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System.

Seeing Lewis & Clark develop from conception to construction was a labor of love for Red, and a mission he fought hard to achieve. Red, one of only two original directors from 1990 still on the board, held a shovel when the ground was first broke in 2003. He has probably made over 60 trips to Washington, DC and many more to the state capitals and attended countless county, city and community meetings.

Fighting to get Lewis & Clark off the ground was just a starting point for Red. He has worked tirelessly on behalf of the project, serving as the vice-chairman of the board beginning in 1994 until becoming the board chairman in 2006, a position he still holds. Lewis & Clark has experienced ups and downs during those years, yet under Red’s leadership over 200 miles of pipeline have been laid in the ground currently delivering much needed water to 14 member communities and rural water projects, reaching over 300,000 people across South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. He has seen over \$470M in funding to Lewis & Clark, including \$57M in advance funding from the three states.

Red’s indisputable dedication was demonstrated when he participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the water treatment plant in August 2012, a mere two weeks after having open heart surgery. His fellow directors surprised him at the ceremony by presenting him with the Lewis & Clark Trailblazer Award, which is the organization’s highest honor.

In May 2016, Luverne was finally able to celebrate their connection to Lewis & Clark, with Red reveling in taking the first swig of water. It was at this ceremony that the meter building in Luverne was dedicated in Red’s honor. Red will be the first to acknowledge that this endeavor, benefiting generations to come in the tristate area, has been a true team effort. But, there is no question Red’s vision for the future, dogged dedication and strong leadership have been a driving force through the years.

When he is not dedicating his time to Lewis & Clark, Red is a proud father of three boys (all sharing his red hair) and grandfather of three red-headed little girls. His family is his pride-and-joy. You will often find Red wearing a pin honoring his son who served in the United States Air Force.

As a dessert first type of guy, Red lives life to the fullest, enjoying travel, fishing and nu-

merous other outdoor activities in his free time, as well as hanging out in his “man cave”. I am grateful for his commitment to public service, his hard work on behalf of Lewis & Clark, and, more importantly, I am proud to call him a friend.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Red Arndt for his many great contributions and wish him the best as he continues to make the most out of the life God has given.

IN HONOR OF THE 130TH ANNIVER- SARY OF SOLENBERGER HARD- WARE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the 130th anniversary of Solenberger Hardware of Winchester, Virginia. Solenberger Hardware is truly the classic story of American entrepreneurialism, a story of humble beginnings, of overcoming adversity and adapting to new circumstances.

On the occasion of the company’s anniversary celebration, a large, beautiful historical mural about the company has been completed that includes portraits of past company leaders and an illustration of the original store. The mural highlights one biblical expression to summarize those 130 years: “Do to Others What You Would Have Them Do to You.” This high standard of trustworthiness and loyalty, that was developed by each of the company’s leaders, is what has set Solenberger Hardware apart. John S. Solenberger, the founder of the store in 1888, made a significant contribution to this corporate culture when, during the Great Depression, he promised his employees that he would keep them working and on the payroll, and paid in cash. Herbert Solenberger, of the following generation, treated the store’s customers with such integrity that, if he found that the store had short-changed a customer, he would personally seek out the customer to repay him or her. And Herbert’s brother, Hugh, developed a standard of customer service that involved training employees to be experts about the store’s products and services, always approaching their work with the customer’s best interest in mind.

Such extraordinary loyalty and trustworthiness have always been extended to the larger community, as well. The 1960s and 1970s were times of racial unrest in Winchester and John T. Solenberger, Hugh’s son, expressed loyalty to an African-American employee by promoting him to a management position in the company, based on his merits, without being thwarted by any concerns he may have had for how such a decision might affect their business. Additionally, Solenberger Hardware annually hosts fundraising events to benefit the Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter and the Winchester Rescue Mission.

Another tradition contributing to Solenberger Hardware’s resilience has been its passion for change and innovation, starting with John S.’s modifying the very nature of the Solenberger business, to current leaders John, Jr. and Cyndi Solenberger’s move of the store to a place offering greater access to the customer.